

THE DAILY HERALD  
Salt Lake City, - - Utah.

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Subscribers who come a favor by forwarding information to this office when their papers are not duly delivered. This will greatly aid us in our efforts to determine where the fault lies.

RANKIN'S DANITES.

The *Danite News*, last evening, has an editorial article advising the Mormon people to stay away from the Theatre during the McKee Rankin engagement. Naturally, this will bring forth a howl of indignation from a certain class, and we may expect to hear a good deal about Mormon intolerance, and all that sort of thing. But let us ask, looking at the matter dispassionately, if the *News*, being the official newspaper organ of the Mormon Church, is not nearer right than wrong in the position it assumes. We do not know that Mr. Rankin has any enmity towards the Mormons; if he entertains any such feeling it is without cause, for he has been kindly, even generously treated by the Saints; but it is a fact that he has been playing in this country and in Europe a sensational drama—"The Danites"—which has probably done as much as all the sermons of all the ministers, preached since the play was written, to arouse, stimulate and intensify the bitter anti-Mormon sentiment that is to-day entertained in two continents. Whether or not the Mormon religion is right, is a matter that cannot properly be considered in this connection; it is supremely right in their minds, and Mr. Rankin's "Danites" is a vicious slumber upon them and their religion, while Mr. Rankin is chiefly responsible for the circulation of the libel. His only interest in the business may be the money that he obtains, but the effect is just as bad as it would be were he in earnest in his efforts to bring the Mormons into disrepute, and subject them to annoyance, expense and trouble. The position of the *News*, as the adviser of its people, is that they should not encourage with their money those who are fighting them, and from its standpoint, the position is a correct one, though it will, as a matter of course, excite unfriendly discussion and cause another howl to go forth against the Saints.

The propriety of the *News* article may be questioned—its evident purpose being to lessen the receipts at the door—the exposure or attack being of that peculiar character which sometimes defeats itself by arousing a curiosity that would otherwise have lain dormant.

THE NEWEST CABINET.

The latest Cabinet that has been devised and arranged for President Cleveland is one which comes from Albany in our telegraphic dispatches, as follows: Secretary of State, Bayard; Treasury, Manning; Interior, McDonald; Navy, Gorman; War, Thurman; Postmaster-General, Vilas. And a grand Cabinet it would make, full of the best brains and broadest statesmanship in the country. There is just one little change that could be made with advantage. It is seen that nobody has been designated for the Attorney-Generalship; Mr. Cleveland will oblige the country and make a Cabinet that is pretty nearly perfect, by making Col. Vilas his law adviser, and Dr. George L. Miller, the brilliant editor of the *Omaha Herald*, Postmaster-General. Some of the friends of the last named gentleman are urging his name upon Cleveland for the position indicated. Dr. Miller is and ever has been one of the firm pillars of Democracy in the west, always faithful to the cause and vigorous and able in his advocacy of popular right. Among his warm personal and political friends are those staunch political chieftains, Samuel J. Tilden and Horatio Seymour, who have long honored him with their confidence. It is due to the far west that it be recognized by Mr. Cleveland, and his selection could not fall more appropriately than upon Dr. Miller. Not that the Postmaster-Generalship would be any additional honor for the Doctor, whose present position as editor of the *Omaha Herald*, the great organ of Democracy for the western region, is about as elevated a place as a man can attain; for him to go from the tripod to the Cabinet would be a sacrifice, but such a sacrifice as his friends would like to see him make for the good of the country.

COST OF CONVERSIONS.

The *New York Times* has been investigating church and missionary statistics and expense bills, with a view to learning the cost of conversions of heathens to Christianity, and as a result of its inquiries, publishes that it costs

\$218.14 per head to convert to the Congregational belief; \$392.03 per head to the Episcopalians; \$234.91 per head to the Presbyterians; \$117.91 to the Methodists, and only \$27.05 to the Baptists. The Baptist missionaries converted 11,891 heathens to their faith, while the missionaries of all other Protestant denominations combined led only 8,782 into their respective folds. This showing should involve a further inquiry, as to the real value of the money expended, the quality and earnestness of the prayers, and so on. It will be seen from the above that a Baptist dollar does as much for Christianity as six Presbyterian dollars, or sixteen Episcopalians dollars. As the missionaries, as a rule, are equally able, earnest, industrious and prayerful, whatever their denomination, the explanation for this difference in results must be found either in the size of the dollars used or in the quality of the converts. If the Baptists use the smallest dollars in their missionary work and the Episcopalians the largest, while the others use dollars ranging between the extremes, the mystery is solved at once; but if all use dollars of equal size and value, we will have to conclude that the quality of the Baptist converts is so poor that it takes six of them to equal one Presbyterian, sixteen to amount to an Episcopalian, nine to make a Congregationalist and four for a Methodist. In this connection it might not be out of place to suggest that the prices of all these conversions seem to be very high; it may be questioned if the money is well invested.

TELEPHONE EXTORTION.

In another part of THE HERALD a city merchant writes in approval of what was said in these columns concerning telephone extortions, and applies the strictures to the local company. THE HERALD did not have the city company in mind when speaking of the robberies committed through the telephone, but wrote of the Bell people, the owners of the patent, who control the telephones and have companies in different cities of the country. Our protest was against a royalty that amounts to 400 or 500 per cent. on the investment of capital; against the people being robbed to pay a few from 40 to 80 per cent. annually on the money that it costs to construct and operate the telephone. We are assured that the local company is receiving only fair interest on the cost of its plant, and have reason to believe this is true; but this fact does not relieve the owners of the patent from the charge of robbing everybody who uses the instrument, the local company being simply the middle man or agent through which the robbery is committed. The company here has to pay the Bell company \$1 per month rental for an instrument which costs, all told, less than \$3, the telephone itself still being the property of the Bell company. Thus the latter gets about 33 1/3 per cent. monthly on the instrument. The local company does not pay this, in fact, but collects it from the subscriber and turns it over to the greedy monopoly. If the local company could get instruments at a reasonable cost, subscribers would naturally be the gainers, and people here might be able to enjoy the benefits of the great invention without feeling that they are treating themselves to a luxury, as our correspondent puts it.

If the local company is making no more than it should make on the capital that it has invested, THE HERALD is sorry for it, and suggests that it apply to the Bell company for a share of the enormous profits that the people are certainly paying to somebody. Because the Bell is robbing the people, because it is charging exorbitant rates, THE HERALD rejoices whenever it sees any protest against the extortion, and is pleased by the coming up of anything that promises opposition to the thieves. The way to defeat the robbers is to refuse to use their invention and this can only be done by united action on the part of the public. As "Merchant" suggests, one feels that he is forced to have the telephone because his competitor has it, but if all were to say that they would do without it unless the price were made reasonable, they could force the inventor to terms.

RICHARD GRANT WHITE is perhaps the best living American scholar on English pronunciation. He has done much towards straightening crooked ways in the matter of pronunciation, and has dispelled many doubts, but nothing that he has done is more beneficial to the race than the decree which he recently made concerning those troublesome words, either and neither. He says the old Irish sound of ei as it occurs in eight has good authority, but settles the business as follows: "either and neither, being antiquated and Irish, analogy and the best usage require the common pronunciation *ether* and *neether*. For the pronunciation *ither* and *ineither* with the i long, which is sometimes heard, there is no authority, either of analogy or of the best speakers. It is an affectation, and in this country a copy of a second-rate British affectation. Persons of the best education and the highest social position in England say *ether* and *neether*."

PATIENCE.

CLEVELAND is credited with saying: "I think it is wise to retain the friends that came to our support in the last campaign. It is a question in my mind whether the Solid South can be maintained by the Democrats, and by inaugurating a liberal and progressive policy we may be able to gather many recruits in Northern and Western States." Such consolation as the "ins" can derive from this language they are welcome to.

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